5/17/76

Dear Harold,

Tomorrow, Duane and I begin moving into a new apartment, an exciting event for both of us, and one which materialized rather suddenly (we had not expected to move until the end of the summer, but a good deal opened up). The moving will keep us very busy, in addition to working, plus getting another kitten, plus each of us travelling (me first to Phila, next week, and then Duane, with mother, to NY).

I'm sorry that I haven't been in touch since the radio show. I've been letting things accumulate in a 3rd class envelop, to go out later this week. My folks said you called them when you were near Phila and expressed concern.

On the book, I did not want to tell you during radio breaks, but the figures my publisher is giving out are inflated. the first printing, they tell me, was 6,000 (not 25,000 as they are saying publically) and sold out instantly. They next did a stopgap second printing of 3,000 (1000 of which was bought by Playboy for alternate selection to Betrayal) and announced 10,000. It does seem to me that they are printing too small quantities, and would be wiser to go bigger, but they assure me they know what they are doing. As for advertising, Waldens will run a half-page NYT ad this coming Thursday, 5/20. It was to run almost a month ago but was originally delayed because Waldens was selling so heavily on Final Days they thought the ad would be wasted. It was also delayed last week, apparently because final copy was not finished. My publ. tells me the ad is completed and is definitely set for 5/20. Also, they plan advertising in Sunday papers in Los Angeles and Dallas, probably this coming Sunday. Korvettes is also distributing the book. My publ. tells me that they have arranged about the best distribution available, and that from what they know, the book is selling, but it is too early for many re-orders, especially prior to ads. (I've heard from many people around country that they've seen it in bookstores). On appearances, publ. says they want to push for national coverage, and are not yet interested in a tour of local appearances. Still waiting for response from Kup, and they say they are "very hopeful" on the Tomorrow Show.

At any rate, I am glad I took off this quarter--the break from classes was very helpful to me. I am not particularly looking forward to classes again in the summer, but I imagine I will adjust. I will be bust as ever. In addition to my Center work, I will probably be an editor on the Law Review. I had decided not to run for an editorial position, but was talked out of that position by my best friend, who was just elected editor in chief.

My best to Lil (and please thank her for the coupons, which Duane and I and Olive appreciate).

Best, Howard

PS: Just read your letters re update O in NO or fast Agent O. Of course, I'd love to. Can't do w/o pay. Am committed to school this summer, but would consider for fall. Could work very fast come fall, and prepare over summer, incl. briefings from you. Let me know what develops.

HR